



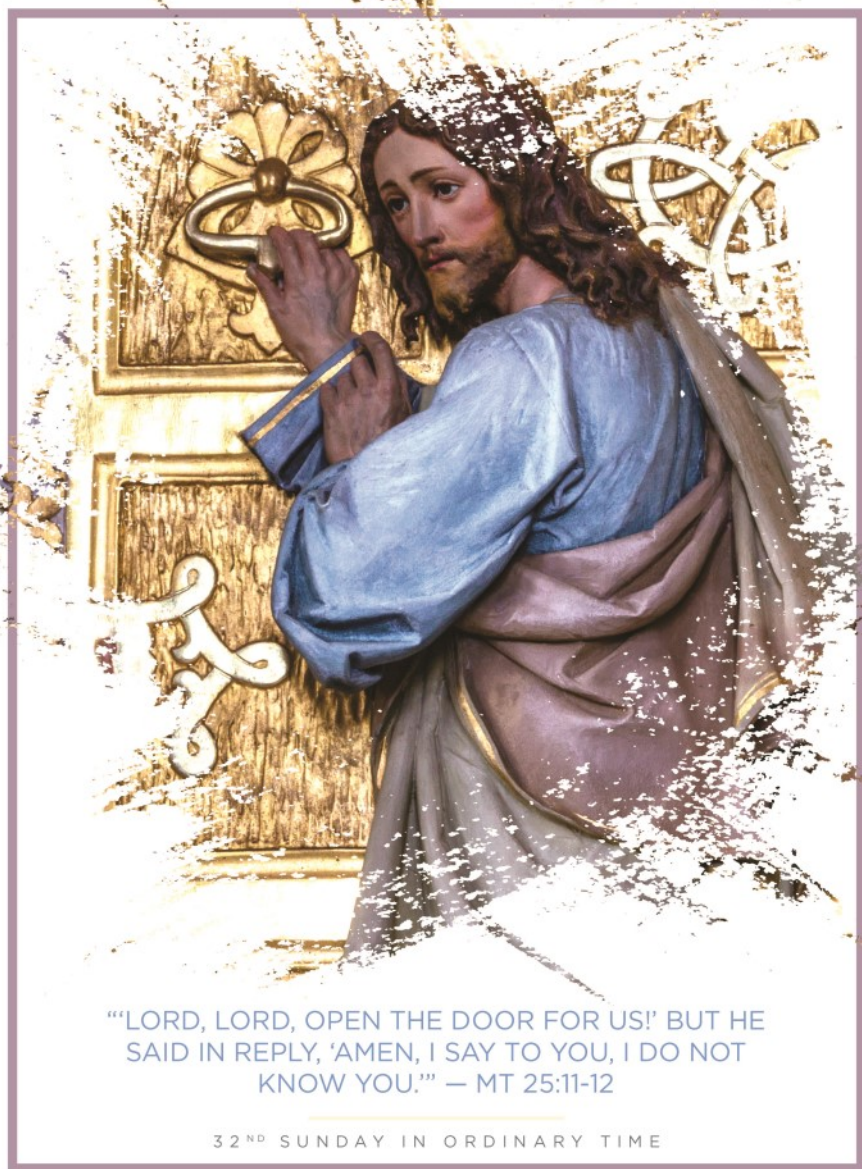
# St. Thomas Catholic Church

## PARISH & CAMPUS MINISTRY

SERVING CHRIST TOGETHER



•SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •



“LORD, LORD, OPEN THE DOOR FOR US!” BUT HE  
SAID IN REPLY, ‘AMEN, I SAY TO YOU, I DO NOT  
KNOW YOU.’” — MT 25:11-12

32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday ..... 5:30pm  
Sundays ..... 8:00am, 11:00am,  
12:30pm (Español)

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Wednesday ..... 9:00am  
Thursday ..... 9:00am  
Friday ..... 9:00am  
1st Saturday of Each Month ..... 10:00am

### COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday ..... 9:00am

### CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY MASS

Wednesday ..... 5:30pm  
(Student Center Chapel / During School Session)

### HOLY DAY MASSES

Visit [stthomascatholic.com](http://stthomascatholic.com) or see the  
monthly calendar for Holy Day Mass schedules.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday ..... 4:00pm-5:00pm  
(or by appointment)

80 ST. THOMAS WAY • MONTEVALLO, AL 35115 • 205-663-3936  
PARISH WEBSITE: <http://stthomascatholic.com>

# PRAYER & WORSHIP

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday,</b> 5:30 PM	<b>Nov. 11</b> Mass for All Souls in Purgatory
<b>Sunday,</b> 8:00 AM 11:00 AM 12:30 PM	<b>Nov. 12</b> Mass for Melba Orticke, deceased Mass for Hayden Boutwell, deceased Misa para la Gente de la Parroquia
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>Nov. 14 Communion Service</b>
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>Nov. 15</b>
9:00 AM	Mass Intention for Wayne & Vin Perrin
<b>Thursday,</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Nov. 16</b> Mass for Mack Barnes, deceased
<b>Friday,</b> 9:00 AM	<b>Nov. 17</b> Mass for Dr. Donald Ivie, deceased
<b>Saturday,</b> 5:30 PM	<b>Nov. 18</b> Mass for Joe Locascio, deceased
<b>Sunday,</b> 8:00 AM 11:00 AM 12:30 PM	<b>Nov. 19</b> Mass for Mary Thornton, deceased Mass Intention for Debbie Pardi Misa para la Gente de la Parroquia

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

**First Reading**— Whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed, for he shall find her sitting by his gate. (Wisdom 6:12-16)

**Psalm**— My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.  
(Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8)

**Second Reading**— For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. (1 Thes 4:13-18)

**Gospel**— Lord, Lord, open the door for us! But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you. Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour. (Matthew 25:1-13)

## Readings for the week

<b>Monday:</b>	Wisdom 1:1-7; Luke 17:1-6
<b>Tuesday</b>	Wisdom 2:23-3:9; Luke 17:7-10
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Wisdom 6:1-11; Luke 17:11-19
<b>Thursday:</b>	Wisdom 7:22b-8:1; Luke 17:20-25
<b>Friday:</b>	Wisdom 13:1-9 ; Luke 17:26-37
<b>Saturday:</b>	Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Luke 18:1-8
<b>Sunday:</b>	Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mateo 25:14-30

## Everyone Has a Divine Vocation

"Jesus has a specific task in life for each and every one of us. Each one of us is hand-picked, called by name by Jesus! There is no one among us who does not have a divine vocation! Some are called audibly by God, but the usual kind of call is internal, through the inner working of the Spirit." ~ *Homily by Pope Saint John Paul II*

## Monthly Altar Flowers

**Nov. 11th & Nov. 12th**  
In memory of Zula Bishop  
In memory/honor of  
**Nov. 18th & Nov. 19th**  
In memory/honor of  
In memory/honor of



## Eucharistic Adoration

Come spend time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration on the 1st & 3rd Friday of each month. Friday adoration begins at noon and ends on Saturday at noon. There is a need for 1st Friday from 1pm-2pm and Saturday 4am-5am. For more information or to sign-up call Rose Marie Vetrano 205-620-0051 or cell 659-901-8823. *Adoration is held in the Chapel at the Student Center. Adoration will take place on Nov. 17th.*

		EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	ALTAR SERVERS	USHERS	SACRISTANS
<b>Saturday</b> <b>Nov. 18th</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>	(1) Tena Whitworth (2) Dennis Malcolme (3) Ed Angelini	Alan Cannon		Bill Drescher Walter Lee	Mike O'Donnell
<b>Sunday</b> <b>Nov. 19th</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	(1) George Sadowski (2) Marie Green (3) Christy Ash (4) Teresa Navarro (B) Laura Kaylor	Kim Fridy Derek Smith	Asli (T) (MC) Trent Seaborne (T) (L) Gigi, Leo, & Oliver	Loralyn Watson Phillip Watson Keith Brown	Sarah Burns
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	(1) Bill Richardson (2) Sue Caliento (3) Mary Lowery (4) Michael Fisher (B) Cathy Crofts	Jena Evanko Barbara McClary	David (T) (MC) Christopher, Abraham, Alex, Hallie, & Roman	Brenda Picou Bill Richardson Jasper Levio	Jena Evanko
	<b>12:30 PM</b> <b>(Spanish)</b>	<b>Cuerpo</b> – Lucina & Fernando <b>Caliz</b> – Aracey, Atonio, Juana, & Blanca	(1) Vidal Martinez (S) Cristina Angel (2) Xochitl (P) Jorge	Fernando (T) (MC) Yosgart, Liso, William, Griselda, & Maurgarita	Heron	Magda Rivera, Lupe y Antonio

# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

**NOV. 12, 2023 TO NOV. 18, 2023**

**SUNDAY, NOV 12**  
9:30AM-10:30AM

**MONDAY, NOV 13**  
8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN

**TUESDAY, OCT. NOV 14**  
8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15**  
8:30 AM-4:00 PM OFFICE OPEN

**THURSDAY, NOV. 16**  
8:30AM-4:00PM OFFICE OPEN

**FRIDAY, NOV. 17**  
8:30AM-12:00PM OFFICE OPEN  
Adoration begins at noon

**SATURDAY, NOV. 18**  
Adoration ends at noon  
4:00-5:00PM Reconciliation  
5:30PM Vigil Mass

## St. Thomas Facebook

For any who cannot attend Mass due to health concerns, we stream the 5:30pm Saturday Mass on our Facebook page. The St. Thomas Parish Facebook page can be found by searching "St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Montevallo, AL." with the picture of Saint Thomas. You can also find the Facebook link at the bottom of the church website.

## Faith Direct

Looking for a convenient way to support our parish offertory and building fund? Faith Direct is the innovative solution that allows you to support our parish using electronic funds transfer from either a bank account or credit/debit card. If you would like an enrollment form, please call the parish Finance Office at 205-663-3936 ex.109. You can also enroll at [www.stthomascatholic.com/online-giving/](http://www.stthomascatholic.com/online-giving/).

## Annulment Advocates

St Thomas parish currently has two diocesan tribunal certified advocates for the marriage annulment process. Deacon David and Ann Hicks are available to serve as advocates for parish members that may have questions about the annulment procedures or may be considering the annulment process. Please contact Deacon David or Ann Hicks if you have questions or need further assistance.

## Pastoral Staff

<http://stthomascatholic.com/pastoral-staff-2/>

**MAIN OFFICE** (205) 663-3936

### PASTOR

Rev. Brad Jantz Ext. 101

### RETIRED PRIEST

Rev. Adrian L. Cook  
[alcook46@outlook.com](mailto:alcook46@outlook.com)

### SISTER

Amanda Magdalena Ext. 104

[SrAmanda@stthomascatholic.com](mailto:SrAmanda@stthomascatholic.com)

### DEACON

David Hicks Ext. 105  
[dhicks@stthomascatholic.com](mailto:dhicks@stthomascatholic.com)

### FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Jackie Lampton Ext. 109

### HISPANIC COORDINATORS

Marisa Roan Ext. 100

Laila Garcia Ext. 113

### CAMPUS MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Anna Clair , Drew Roberts & Michael Whitfield  
[ccm@stthomascatholic.com](mailto:ccm@stthomascatholic.com)

## Mission Statement

We, the parish family of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, proclaim our belief in the message & mission of Jesus Christ. We are committed to sharing our time, talent & treasure through worship, spiritual formation & outreach.

## Baptisms

Please contact Fr. Jantz at 205-663-3936 for Baptismal Preparation.

## Marriage

Parish Membership and a six month preparation period are required. For weddings, please contact Father Jantz at 205-663-3936.

## Ministry of the Sick & Homebound

Please contact the office at 205-663-3936 if someone is in need of Holy Communion at home/hospital/nursing home.

## Membership in the Parish

All Catholic adults 18 and older who regularly participate in the Liturgy here are strongly encouraged to register in the parish. Those who enroll in Faith Formation programs or request Baptism or Marriage in our church should already belong to our parish family. To register, please contact the Parish Office. If you are moving from another parish, please let us know.

## Parish Office Hours

Mon-Thurs | 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Friday | 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

## Parish Telephones

Parish Phone: 205-663-3936  
Fax: 205-663-0657

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

### Collection for Oct. 2023 (5 weeks)

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$53,000.00	\$58,208.44	\$5,208.44
Building Fund	\$38,000.00	\$29,756.96	\$8,243.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$91,000.00</b>	<b>\$66,603.64</b>	<b>\$3,034.60</b>

### Year-to-Date Collection 07/01/23—Present

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Offertory	\$190,800.00	\$197,928.73	\$7,128.73
Building Fund	\$136,800.00	\$103,010.29	\$33,789.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$327,600.00</b>	<b>\$300,939.02</b>	<b>\$26,660.98</b>

With the advice of the Parish Finance Council, Saint Thomas Parish does financial planning according to a fiscal year rather than a calendar year. Our current fiscal year began 7/1/23.



# PARISH ACTIVITIES

## Interested In Becoming Catholic?

You may have been coming to the Catholic Church for a long time with a family member or with a friend, but you had not thought about the possibility of becoming Catholic. Maybe now is the time to consider that possibility. Would you like to learn more about the Catholic Church to help with your decision? The RCIA Process (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) at St. Thomas are on Tuesday @ 6:30. The classes will be in the St. Joseph's Classroom in the main office building. For more information, please call Fr. Jantz @ 205-663-3936 or Jackie Lampton @ 205-663-3936 or 205-249-1171(cell)

### Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Continuing with our reflection on the Last Things, this week I'd like to focus on what's probably the hardest aspect of our earthly existence: death. It's a sad and tragic reality, when we grieve the passing of a loved one or friend, and also when we find that we have to consider the end of our own lives. But since it's part of human experience, it's something we should look at with the eyes of faith.

First, I think it's important to acknowledge that death is a tragedy, and that it's okay to feel sad and even cry sometimes when we're going through grief. It's easy for us to sometimes feel like the experience of genuine grief makes us less of a Christian, that our faith in the Resurrection means we shouldn't be sad when we lose someone. But I love what St Paul says about this in our second reading this weekend (from 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:13-18): "We do not want you to be unaware about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope." In other words, it's okay to grieve—but we have to keep in mind that our sadness is *hopeful* grief.

When Jesus died, he changed suffering and death into the pathway to everlasting life. Through the power of the Resurrection, death is not the end. One day, "the Lord himself will descend from heaven ... and the dead in Christ will rise" (1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:16). We pray for our departed loved ones, knowing that we have the hope of seeing them again. We remember them, and we know that they also remember us in their prayers. Feeling that connection in Christ with those who have gone on is one of the greatest consolations we can feel in our grief.

Let's reclaim a favorite Catholic prayer together this month, a prayer filled with love and hope that conquer sorrow: "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace." Amen!

God bless,

Fr Jantz

### Primetimers - 11/14

The Parish Primetimers meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 11am for Mass and potluck. Primetimers is an organization for church members aged 55 and over to get together and enjoy some fellowship. Please join us -- what a great way to get to know other members of our church! **Our next luncheon is Nov. 14th.**

### College Student Mass and Dinner 11/15

St. Thomas Parish sponsors a special Wednesday evening Mass and Dinner for college students each Wednesday while the University of Montevallo is in session. The Mass is celebrated at 5:30pm at the Campus Chapel on the corner of Highland and Moody, and a dinner prepared by teams from the parish follows immediately after Mass. **This Wednesday's team is Jackie Lampton team #2.**

### Stewardship Weekend Thank You

Thank you to all the parishioners who have returned their pledge cards for the coming year. St. Thomas is grateful for your generosity. If you have not yet returned your pledged card, please do so at your earliest convenience. As of 10/30/23, Offertory pledges received total **\$251,043.00** and Building Fund pledges received total **119,277.00**

### Faith Formation

Faith Formation

**Grade 1st-10th: Sun. 9:30-10:45a.m**

**RCIA: Tuesday, Sept. 12th at 6:30pm.**

### Saturday Morning Mass 12/2

The St. Thomas Parish will have Mass at 10am on the **first Saturday** of every month in honor of Our Lady. The Next Saturday morning Mass will be on Dec. 12th.

### Altar Flowers 2023

St. Thomas has a sign-up sheet for Altar Flowers in honor of a loved one or in memory of a loved one are available in the gathering space. Thank you for your assistance in having flowers for the altar. Altar flowers are \$45.

### Rosary on Sunday Mornings

The Sunday Morning Rosary will be in the Adult Faith Formation room in the back after the 8:00am Mass.

### Youth Group 8th—12th grade

The youth group meets in the St. Anthony classroom each Wednesday at 7:00pm. Please join us. If you have any questions, contact Maria Maldonado at 205-517-0604.

### Young Adult Group

The young adult group from ages 18 years old to 35 years old meet on Thursday's at 7:00PM. All are welcome to attend. For more information contact Bianca at 205-612-3698 or Maria at 205-517-0604.

### K of C Monthly Meeting

The St Thomas Knights of Columbus meet in the modular building behind the church office at 7PM on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The 4th degree meeting is immediately after the Council meeting, at about 8PM. There is usually food available at 6:30 before the meeting.

### Padre Pio Prayer Group 11/19

The Padre Pio Prayer group will meet on Saturday, Nov. 19, at 10am at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Homewood, AL. All are welcome to join us for an hour of prayer/rosary/adoration and Holy Mass led by Fr. Jim Hedderman. For more information, contact Angela Kolar at [angkolar@att.net](mailto:angkolar@att.net) or 205-410-2033.

### Welcome to St. Thomas!

St. Thomas Parish is happy to welcome all people to our faith community. If you live in this area, we invite you to register as a parishioner. Registration forms in both English and Español are available in the Gathering Area of the church.

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

### Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation continues Sunday mornings between the masses at 945am after the rosary. The schedule for November and December include: Nov 12<sup>th</sup> with Father Jantz, November 19<sup>th</sup>, Pope St. Pius X, No Class Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>, Senses used in reading the Bible December 3<sup>rd</sup>, The Gospel of Mark with Father Cook, December 10<sup>th</sup>, Defending the Faith December 17<sup>th</sup>, Christmas break December 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. All are welcomed to attend.

### Ladies Wednesday Bible Study

The Ladies Morning Scripture Study are on Wednesday's in the St. Joseph's Room with The Eucharist in Scripture. This study will discover God's plan as it is expressed through the Bible and the Mass. This six-lesson study, presented by Dr. Scott Hahn, will unlock the meaning of covenant, sacrifice, and sacrament as understood in the Bible, from Genesis through Revelation. The Eucharist in Scripture examines the biblical foundations of the Eucharist and explores the Church's liturgy as the original context for the books of the Bible. All ladies are welcome to attend. Call Debbie at 205-616-0920 if you have any questions

### Wednesday Night Scripture Study

We are in our second year of the National Eucharistic Revival. This second phase will foster Eucharistic devotion at the parish level, strengthening our liturgical life through faithful celebration of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and movements of the Holy Spirit. With this in mind, the Wednesday Night Scripture Study Group will explore Eucharist: Discovering the Mass in the Bible Acclaimed author and teacher Dr. Brant Pitre digs down to the biblical roots of the Eucharist, through its foreshadowing in the miraculous events of the Old Testament, the Gospels, and Apostolic teaching. We'll discover firsthand how Christ's Body and Blood are an integral and wondrous part of God's plan for our salvation. Our first session will be Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 PM in the St. Joseph's room. All are invited to attend. Questions? Call Bill or Deb at 205-515-1927.

### Book of Remembrance

There will be a Book of Remembrance in the gathering area for you to write the names of your deceased loved ones for remembrance at the Masses during November. This book will be placed on the altar for the month of November.

### Ladies Auxiliary We're Back!

The Ladies Auxiliary meeting are scheduled for the following dates. November 12, 2023 January 14, 2024 March 10, 2024 May 12, 2024  
Time: 7pm Place: St Joseph Room.

### Greene County Food & Coat Collection 11/12

The St Thomas Knights are repeating the food and coat collections for the people of Greene County as was done last year. Please bring non-perishable food items and/or new or gently used coats for kids ages infant to 18 to the masses. There will be collection boxes in the gathering space for both. The collection boxes will be available from Saturday, September 30, through Sunday, November 12. Monetary donations can also be made by putting them in an envelope marked "Greene County" and putting them into the collection baskets at mass or dropping them off in the church office. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

### Social Concerns Committee: Angel Tree

The annual St. Thomas Parish angel Tree is scheduled to be standing in the Gathering Space on All Saints Day. Once again the Angels will come from Shelby Emergency Assistance and Bibb county DHR. These are children who, without your generosity, otherwise most likely would not have a Merry Christmas. A change this year is that the agencies have asked that gifts be tagged but not wrapped. Remember take the top part tape it to the gift and the bottom part fill out and put in the glass jar. All Angel gifts are to be returned by November 19th.

### Thanksgiving Day Mass with Blessing of the Bread 11/23

St. Thomas Parish will celebrate Mass at 10:00AM on Thanksgiving Day with the tradition of blessing of the bread. Please bread your bread that you will be using for your Thanksgiving dinner.

### K of C Pancake Breakfast 12/3

The Knights of Columbus provide a pancake breakfast on the First Sunday of each month from 8:30am to 10:30am. Please plan to join us.  
**Next Breakfast is Dec. 3rd.**

### Ladies Auxiliary Fun with Santa 12/9

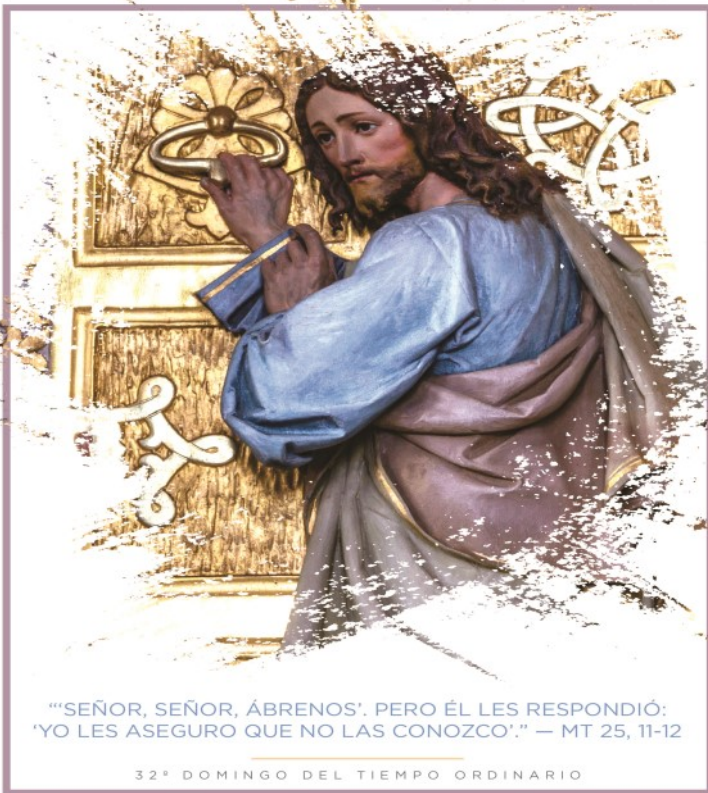
Calling all children and those who are young at heart! St. Thomas Ladies Auxiliary will host our Fun with Santa event on Saturday, December 9th from 2:00pm-4:00pm in our parish social hall. Come enjoy a story read by Fr. Jantz, arts and crafts, and a visit with Santa Claus!

### Christmas Choir 12/10

St. Thomas invites you to a bilingual Christmas Choir concert on December 10, 2023 at 6:00PM in the main church. All are welcome.

### Celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe 12/11-12

St. Thomas invites you to come and celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec. 11th starting at 10:00PM with the Rosary, and at 11:00PM singing till midnight, there will be hot chocolate served with sweet bread afterwards. Tuesday, Dec. 12th there will be a Mass at 6:00PM with a procession and Rosary in the church and a reception after in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.



## Libro Recordando a los Difuntos

Habr  un Libro del Recuerdo en el  rea de reuni n para que escriba los nombres de sus seres queridos fallecidos para recordarlos en las Misas durante noviembre. Este libro ser  colocado en el altar durante el mes de noviembre.

## Santo Tom s Angel Tree 11/19

Una vez m s los regalos del Angel Tree ser n donados a Shelby Emergency Assistance y Bibb County DHR. Como cada a o estra n los  ngeles en el  rbol por favor tomar la parte de abajo y llenarla y ponerla en un contenedor. Este a o ser  diferente los regalos ser n etiquetados pero no envueltos. Tambi n est n buscando donadores de papel para envolver y mo os.

## Misa de Acci n de Gracias con bendici n del pan 11/23

St. Thomas Parish celebrar  la misa a las 10:00 am el d a de Acci n de Gracias con la tradici n de la bendici n del pan. Traiga su pan que usar  para su cena de Acci n de Gracias para ser bendecido.

## Auxiliar de Damas  Estamos de Vuelta! 12/9

 Llamando a todos los ni os y a los j venes de coraz n! St. Thomas Ladies Auxiliary organizar  nuestro evento Diversi n con Santa el s bado 9 de diciembre de 2:00 p. m. a 4:00 p. m. en nuestro sal n social parroquial. Ven a disfrutar de un cuento le do por el P. Jantz, aretes y manualidades,  y una visita con Pap  Noel!

## Celebrando a Nuestra Se ora de Guadalupe 12/11-12

Santo Tom s los invita a venir a celebrar a Nuestra Se ora de Guadalupe el 11 de diciembre a partir de las 10:00 p. m. con el Rosario, y a las 11:00 p. m. cantando hasta la medianoche, despu s se servir  chocolate caliente con pan dulce. El martes 12 de diciembre habr  una Misa a las 6:00 p.m. con una procesi n y Rosario en la iglesia y luego una recepci n en el Sal n Parroquial. Todos son bienvenidos.

## LECTURAS DEL DOMINGO

**Primera Lectura:** ella se deja encontrar por quienes la buscan y se anticipa a darse a conocer a los que la desean. (Sab 6, 12-16)  
**Salmo:** Se or, mi alma tiene sed de ti. (62, 2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8)  
**Segunda lectura:** Pues, si creemos que Jes s muri  y resucit , de igual manera debemos creer que, a los que murieron en Jes s, Dios los llevar  con  l. (1 Tes 4:13-18)  
**Evangelio:** Se or, se or,  brenos'. Pero  l les respondi : 'Yo les aseguro que no las conozco. (Mateo 25:1-13)

## Lecturas Para La Semana

**Lunes :** Sab 1:1-7; Lucas 17:1-6  
**Martes:** Sab 2: 23-3, 9; Lucas 17:7-10  
**Miercoles:** Sab 6: 1-11; Lucas 17:11-19  
**Jueves:** Sab 7: 2-8, 1; Lucas 17:20-25  
**Viernes:** Sab 13, 1-9; Lucas 17:26-37  
**Sabado:** Sab 18:14-16; 19, 6-9; Lucas 18:1-8  
**Domingo:** Prov 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31; 1 Tes 5:1-6; Mateo 25:14-30

## Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Continuando con nuestra reflexi n sobre las  ltimas Cosas ("las cuatro postrimer as"), esta semana quisiera centrarme en el aspecto m s duro de nuestra existencia terrenal: la muerte. Es una realidad triste y tr gica, cuando nos afligimos por el fallecimiento de un ser querido o un amigo, y tambi n cuando tenemos que considerar el final de nuestras propias vidas. Pero dado que es parte de la experiencia humana, debemos considerarla con los ojos de la fe.

Primero, creo que es importante reconocer que la muerte es una tragedia y que est  bien sentirse triste e incluso llorar a veces cuando estamos pasando por el duelo. A veces es f cil para nosotros sentir que la experiencia de tristeza nos hace menos cristianos, que nuestra fe en la Resurrecci n significa que no debemos estar tristes cuando perdemos a alguien. Pero me gusta mucho lo que dice San Pablo sobre esto en nuestra segunda lectura de este fin de semana (de 1 Tesalonicenses 4:13-18): "No queremos que ignoren lo que pasa con los difuntos, para que no vivan tristes, como los que no tienen esperanza.". En otras palabras, est  bien llorar, pero debemos tener en cuenta que nuestra tristeza es acompa ada por esperanza.

Cuando Jes s muri , cambi  el sufrimiento y la muerte en el camino a la vida eterna. Por el poder de la Resurrecci n, la muerte no es el fin. Un d a, "el Se or mismo bajar  del cielo... y los que murieron en Cristo resucitar n" (1 Tesalonicenses 4:16). Oramos por nuestros queridos difuntos, sabiendo que tenemos la esperanza de volver a verlos. Los recordamos y sabemos que ellos tambi n nos recuerdan en sus oraciones. Sentir esa conexi n en Cristo con aquellos que han pasado de esta vida es uno de los mayores consuelos que podemos sentir en el dolor.

Reclamemos juntos una oraci n cat lica favorita este mes, una oraci n llena de amor y esperanza que conquista el dolor: "Conc deles, Se or, el descanso eterno, y brille para ellos la luz perpetua. Descansen en paz."  Amen!

Dios los bendiga,

Padre Jantz

## Santo Tom s te invita para la festival Navide o 12/10

Con el coro Inmaculada que se llevar  acabo el 10 de Diciembre 2023 Las practicas son los Martes a las 6:30p.m.

# MINISTERIO HISPANO

## HORARIO: OFICINA DEL MINISTRO HISPANO

**LUNES- JUEVES: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM Y**

**VIERNES: 8:00AM-12:30PM**

Padre Brad Jantz al 205-663-3936

Horario de la Misa Español

los Domingos 12:30 p.m.

**Primer Sábado Misa Mensual 12/2**

Nuestra próxima misa mensual será el 2 de Diciembre a las 10:00 AM.

**Platicas Prebautismales 12/4**

Deben registrarse antes del bautismo en el libro situado en el espacio a la entrada de la Iglesia.

**Lunes Dec. 4 a las 6:00pm.** Para las clases con Magda Guerrero al 205-663-3936.

**Catequesis para niños** Domingos | 9:30 A.M.-10:45

**Preparaciones para los adultos**

Marisol Millan | 205-432-8940

**Grupo de Jóvenes**

Los Miercoles a las 7:00pm

**Grupo de los Jóvenes Adultos**

Los Jueves a las 7:00pm

**Preparaciones para quinceañeras**

Magda Rivera | 643-2659

RosaMaria Angel | 205-901-0470

**Estudio Bíblico**

Los Martes| 6:30pm

**Grupo De Oración**

El Viernes a las 6:45pm

**Defensores de Anulación**

Póngase en contacto con el Diácono David o Ann Hicks al 205-663-3936.

**Hora Santa**

Viernes | 6:00pm-7:00pm cada 1er y 3er en la capilla en Montevallo

**Grupo de Alcoholicos Anonimos**

Para mas informacion llamar a:

**Victor** 205-223-3676; **Jose** 205-230-6634;

**Benjamin** 205-586-5812